

BLUE EIGHTEEN

Darkly Comic Road Drama



BEST FEATURE SCREENPLAY

Berlin International Screenwriting Festival | 2026

LOGLINE

Banned from her daughter's wedding, a volatile mother bullies the grieving neighbor who saved her life into driving her cross-country to confront her family—with his gun. Their unlikely friendship threatens her plans for revenge.

SYNOPSIS

Barred from her daughter Alyssa's wedding, Beth Lawrence attempts suicide. Her dog Bailey alerts Andre, a wheelchair-using neighbor grieving the son he lost in a crash he caused. Andre saves Beth, and she bullies him into driving her from Seattle to Iowa to confront her ex-husband Carter and her mother Ruth. Beth takes Andre's gun.

Their road trip becomes a profane, darkly funny collision of grief and stubbornness. Andre believes the number eighteen holds magic; Beth believes in nothing. She tells him her grandfather sexually abused her and Ruth refused to protect her. Years later, fearing her conflict with Carter could end in murder, Beth took Alyssa and moved west. Andre confesses his responsibility for his son's death. As they near the wedding, Beth's desire for revenge grows. She torches her grandfather's grave, then discovers Andre has concealed his ability to walk and abandons him. Afraid she intends to kill Ruth and Carter, Andre appears to step in front of a train during a FaceTime call. Beth races back to find him alive. Furious, she leaves again, but Andre knows he matters to her.

Beth interrupts the wedding with the gun in her pocket. Instead of using it, she admits her failures as a mother and tells the horrifying truth about her grandfather. Emboldened by Beth's courage, others corroborate her account, breaking Ruth's hold on the family's story. Alyssa has Ruth removed and asks Beth to stay. Andre watches mother and daughter begin to reconcile. After the wedding, Beth returns his gun. With Bailey beside them, the two friends sit on the church steps and face whatever comes next together.

SELECTED RECOGNITION

FINALIST

Wiki Screenplay Competition | Monthly | 2026

FINALIST

Cambridge Script Festival | 2026

SECOND ROUNDER

Austin Film Festival | 2025

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